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Document ID:
Investigation: DUNPHY – 2015-376186

Document Title

Doc Description

How Received

When Received

Date

Document Type:

Document Summary:

Statement of Scott HARRIS dated 2015-04-10 at 0906 Hrs.

This is a copy of a document already in the system

POC Content

Secured for Hold Back or Disclosure Issues

Vetting

Submitted/Recommended/Approved By

Date 2015-11-30

Number ID	Category	Reason
47	T	
NIPPARD, Mike	P	
HARRIS, Scott	P	

Digital Recording
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STATEMENT OF: **Scott HARRIS**

INTERVIEWED BY: **Cst. Mike NIPPARD, RCMP Major Crime Unit
April 10th, 2015 commencing at 9:06 AM**

1 **Nippard:** Alright. ... (unintel) ... anyway. So what's the date? Date and time now. I
2 don't know – April 10th at 9:06 in the morning. So yeah, Scott, if you can
3 just go through – I know you got a call from Warren ...

4 **Harris:** Yeah.

5 **Nippard:** ... on that night, April 5th, and what you guys did from there.

6 **Harris:** Yeah. Ah, as was April 5th, this past Sunday if I remember correctly, ah,
7 shift workers are bad with dates ...

8 **Nippard:** Yeah.

9 **Harris:** ... ah, I'd say it was around, I guess, ... (phone ringing) ... two or three, first
10 got a message. I guess we have a group message – messaging board
11 that we use, the five of us, to ...

12 **Nippard:** Uhm.

13 **Harris:** ... you know, let – let us know that something's on the go.

14 **Nippard:** Okay.

15 **Harris:** ... (unintel) ... who got the message to be honest with you offhand. Ah,
16 that we had an officer involved in a shooting. At that point then we started
17 coordinating, you know, trying to figure out what was happening. Ah, so I
18 got a call around, jeez remember off the top of my head now, I'd say
19 shortly before four, four-thirty, five-ish around there, and it was Warren.
20 Ah, we were gonna head out to, ah, out to Holyrood Detachment there on
21 the Holyrood Access Road to, ah, to meet up with Joe. You know, we had

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1 been advised that he had been transported there, ah, so then two of us
2 drove out. Got there, again not making any notes or nothing, so five-
3 thirtyish, around that time, ah, met with Joey. It was myself and Warren
4 Sullivan, Staff Sergeant Mike Adams was there and, ah, Sergeant Reg
5 Tilley, who's Acting Staff Sergeant now or not. Ah, two of those guys were
6 handling the, I guess, critical incident stress debriefing. And we go out
7 there, I guess, for representation of our member, ah, as part of the
8 Association so Association representatives. So we'll have to provide legal
9 counsel, you know, advise him what their rights are, what their – what's
10 expected of 'em.

11 **Nippard:** Uhm. Okay.

12 **Harris:** But rarely fellows there in these types of situations a lot of times they don't
13 know what they're required to do, what they're, you know, ...

14 **Nippard:** Yeah.

15 **Harris:** ...and – and they're – they're in a tizzy as it is, for lack of a better term.

16 **Nippard:** Yeah.

17 **Harris:** Ah, so goes out, we sat down, mainly to provide support for Joe. I mean,
18 you guys were great and realized the fact that, I mean you know, he – he
19 – it's not ideal for him to provide a statement at that time. So really we just
20 sat with him while he was waiting for, ah, with his clothing dropped off
21 cause you guys wanted to seize his clothing. Ah, so we sat with him,
22 chatted. I mean, he – we didn't enquire as to what happened or anything
23 like that. We didn't question him. We didn't want him talking. I mean, you
24 know...

25 **Nippard:** Yeah.

26 **Harris:** ... that's not in his best interest. Not in the best interest of the
27 investigation for him to be provide a statement at that time.

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1 **Nippard:** Yeah.

2 **Harris:** Ah, you know, he – he did give, I guess, through our talk, I mean, he felt
3 like he wanted to get it off his chest. You could tell by just sitting with him,
4 right.

5 **Nippard:** Yeah.

6 **Harris:** So he talked and he gave a quick overview. He – he said he was out, ah,
7 checking on a threat to the Premier, ah, or investigating some comments
8 were made on social media. And he mentioned that, I – I think it was next
9 door, don't quote me on that again I don't – we don't take notes for stuff
10 like that, ah, ah, it's his brother, either brother-in-law or brother of the the –
11 the individual involved, next door. He spoke to with him first. Went over
12 and spoke with the individual involved, ah, and at that point which all he
13 told us was that he was in talking to him, the guy was up and down, all of
14 sudden he was – he was making notes, saw a barrel come up and drew
15 his firearm at that point, dropped his notebook and started moving towards
16 the door. Ah, ... (unintel)... like you know. He – he reiterated that a
17 couple different times, in a couple different ways. We were chatting
18 throughout and we were trying to keep his mind off it talking about all
19 kinds of random, different things. Joey used to work with the Association
20 with us ...

21 **Nippard:** Okay.

22 **Harris:** ... so, ah, you know, talking about things like that. He still sits on our
23 Finance Committee, you know, working on purchasing land over there,
24 you know what I mean.

25 **Nippard:** Okay.

26 **Harris:** Just all kinds of random stuff. Just talking about family life, you know,
27 how's the kids, that kind of thing. Just trying to keep his mind off it.

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1 **Nippard:** Yeah.

2 **Harris:** Ah, it's pretty much it. And then we, ah, myself and Warren, once they got
3 the clothes delivered, one of our members dropped out some clothes for
4 him, we, ah, I guess this would have been around seven, seven-thirtyish,
5 we drove him back into town. And I got dropped off first and Warren and
6 Joey went on to drop Joey home.

7 **Nippard:** Yeah.

8 **Harris:** That's pretty much it.

9 **Nippard:** Ah, so you guys were there with him just for about a couple of hours or so
10 ... (unintel)...

11 **Harris:** Two – two – two and a half hours kind of ... (unintel)...

12 **Nippard:** Okay. And just to more or less provide support to him ...

13 **Harris:** Yeah.

14 **Nippard:** ... going through – this situation generally is stressful, right.

15 **Harris:** Yeah.

16 **Nippard:** Was there anything – I know you said he – he ... (unintel) ... different
17 times. Was there anything – anything alarming to you that he said that
18 was alarming or ...

19 **Harris:** No, and ...

20 **Nippard:** ... (unintel) ...

21 **Harris:** ... like I said, I mean, we weren't in, I guess, ... (unintel) ... to do with us is
22 we gotta wear two very different hats that, you know, we – we gotta put
23 on, a police officer hat when we're out doin' working and then when we're..

24 **Nippard:** Yeah.

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1 **Harris:** ... doin' Association work so, you know, ...

2 **Nippard:** Yeah.

3 **Harris:** ... we were off duty, had our Association's hats on that day ...

4 **Nippard:** Yeah.

5 **Harris:** ... for a lack of a better term. And, ah, you know, we don't take notes. We
6 don't, you know, - but from what I can tell we don't question him. We don't
7 - I don't go digging as much as, you know, that's almost inherent ...

8 **Nippard:** Yeah.

9 **Harris:** ... to all of us comes naturally but you gotta try and bite your tongues
10 cause that's not appropriate for this situation. Like I said, we're only there
11 to provide support to him and, ah, so, you know, of everything he was
12 saying it sounded as - let's put it this way, as a - as a representative
13 who's had to take care of Joey's best interest, that's my role there ...

14 **Nippard:** Uhm...uhm.

15 **Harris:** ... I had no concern for what had happened based on what he was saying.

16 **Nippard:** Okay.

17 **Harris:** And that's, I guess, the best way I can put it. Even - even as much as he
18 was only being - talking about generally vague comments about what
19 happened. He couldn't go into a full, you know ...

20 **Nippard:** Yeah.

21 **Harris:** ... ramble about it. Ah, even everything he was saying consistent, you
22 know what I mean.

23 **Nippard:** Yeah.

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1 **Harris:** Like he was sorry for the two hours we were there. I mean, at no point
2 was he changing his story or saying something different that didn't – that
3 he hadn't said before. It was just, you know, he was coherent, he was
4 consistent. Nothing was saying he was alarming in any way with regards
5 to, you know, something malicious that was done or – or wrong.

6 **Nippard:** Yeah.

7 **Harris:** You know, something ...

8 **Nippard:** I got the vibe from the other guys too that he kind of – he was very eager.
9 He wanted to talk about it or he wanted ...

10 **Harris:** Yeah.

11 **Nippard:** ... to get it off his chest or had that ...

12 **Harris:** And that's the thing. We almost had to, ah, I guess, convince Joey to, ah,
13 to not provide statement to us. You know ...

14 **Nippard:** Yeah.

15 **Harris:** ... that like, you know, I'm a use of force instructor so I know, you know,
16 that's the last time you wanna provide a statement, twenty-four, forty-eight
17 hours after a critical – critical incident when, you know, you're dealing with
18 survival stress is the best time to provide the statements.

19 **Nippard:** Yeah.

20 **Harris:** So then we had to try to convince him cause, you know, like the other
21 guys said, you know, he just – he – he wanted to talk. He wanted to get it
22 off his chest, right.

23 **Nippard:** Yeah.

24 **Harris:** Ah, so we, ah, we had to recommend to him that, no, it's, you know, it's
25 not in your best interest. It's not in the investigation's best interest for him

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1 to be – be providing a statement at that time, right. Cause, you know,
2 when it comes to survival stress there's so many things goin' on with you
3 at that point. I mean, I – I think he – he mentioned, ah, his, ah, his blood
4 pressure had been taken afterwards and he was up at a hundred and
5 eighty or something like that over ...

6 **Nippard:** Yeah, it was high. I know that ...

7 **Harris:** Yeah.

8 **Nippard:** ... from talking to the paramedics and whatnot.

9 **Harris:** Yeah. So, I mean, that's the last thing he wants to be now trying to provide
10 a statement in that state, right.

11 **Nippard:** Yeah.

12 **Harris:** And his – his memory isn't what it is, so.

13 **Nippard:** For sure.

14 **Harris:** But he did, yeah. He – and that's why, like as much as we – we weren't
15 ... (unintel)... We didn't ask a single thing a single question regarding
16 what happened. He just – even what he did tell us was just, you know,
17 was just coming out of him. He wanted to speak, right.

18 **Nippard:** Yeah. How long have you know him?

19 **Harris:** Joey. Ah, I don't really know Joey all that well personally.

20 **Nippard:** Uhm.

21 **Harris:** Ah, I've – I'm on the Force now closing in, ah, eight years complete. Ah,
22 probably I'd say – I got to know Joey a bit better doing – through the
23 Association work. Ah, four or five years now.

24 **Nippard:** Okay.

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- 1 **Harris:** And, ah, I gotta say as far as, ah, you know, officers who would be
2 involved in something like this, Joey is one of the most, you know,
3 intelligent, level headed officers. One of the better ones we got.
- 4 **Nippard:** Yeah.
- 5 **Harris:** So, ah, you know, when – when he was speaking, when he was talking, it
6 – it – it as much as I knew that Joey's not the type to – he's very by the
7 book and, you know ...
- 8 **Nippard:** Yeah.
- 9 **Harris:** ... that kind of thing. So it's – I was – when I heard there was an officer
10 involved in a shooting, you know, your – your mind always goes to the
11 worst and especially as an Association representative you think yeah, you
12 know, hopefully there's nothing done wrong here and everything is above
13 board.
- 14 **Nippard:** Yeah.
- 15 **Harris:** And when I knew it was Joey I knew it was gonna be, you know ...
- 16 **Nippard:** Yeah.
- 17 **Harris:** Like I said he is one of the best we got.
- 18 **Nippard:** Yeah. Ah, now you said you were Use of Force Expert, right. He ...
- 19 **Harris:** Instructor
- 20 **Nippard:** Instructor...oh
- 21 **Harris:** ...(laughing) ...
- 22 **Nippard:** Oh okay. Alright. Cause I know – no, I know the
- 23 **Harris:** Yeah.

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- 1 **Nippard:** .. there was a re-enactment done with Joey and there was a Use of Force
2 expert or instructor or something that went out there with him. Was that
3 you or somebody else?
- 4 **Harris:** No, no, no. I ...
- 5 **Nippard:** Okay, it was some ...
- 6 **Harris:** ... I – I – I just qualified. That's the reason why I left ...
- 7 **Nippard:** Okay.
- 8 **Harris:** All that stuff was – was fresh in my mind. I was out there ..
- 9 **Nippard:** Right.
- 10 **Harris:** ... and I was trying to ...
- 11 **Nippard:** I just knew ...
- 12 **Harris:** ... (unintel) ... through it.
- 13 **Nippard:** ... one of ... (unintel) ... so I didn't know if was you ...
- 14 **Harris:** Yeah. No.
- 15 **Nippard:** ... and whatnot ..
- 16 **Harris:** No.
- 17 **Nippard:** ... so. Perfect. Alright buddy. It's, ah, 9:14.

18 M.L.G. NIPPARD, CST. #55787 RCMP

19 Cst. Mike Nippard
20 "B" Division Major Crime Unit

21 2015/05/21

22
23 *Transcribed by: Brenda P. Spurrell*
24 *Transcribed statement provided to investigator: 2015-05-21*
25 *Proofread by:*